

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 L-03 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
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SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /125 R

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TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141887

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: UN, WMO, TGEN

SUBJECT: WMO XXX-EC: QUESTIONS CONCERNING COUNCIL
FOR NAMIBIA

REFERENCE: GENEVA 8424

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN SUGGESTION THAT CANADIAN AND
FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES PROPOSE ADDITIONAL PARA CONTAINED
IN PARAGRAPH 4 REFTEL.

2. OUR MORE BASIC CONCERN IS THAT US SHOULD NOT SUPPORT
ACTIONS WHICH WOULD TEND TO POLITICIZE UN SPECIALIZED
AGENCIES. COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA CLEARLY LACKS ATTRIBUTES
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OF STATEHOOD AND CANNOT CONCEIVABLY CLAIM TO ADMINISTER
NAMIBIA UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. THEREFORE, AMEND-
MENT OF WMO CONVENTION SOLELY TO PERMIT MEMBERSHIP OF
COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA WOULD CONSTITUTE POLITICAL ACT WITH
NO TECHNICAL BENEFIT ACCRUING TO WMO. THIS COULD ALSO
SET POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS PRECEDENT FOR OTHER GROUPS WHICH
PURPORT, WITH GENERAL THIRD WORLD SUPPORT, TO REPRESENT

INTERESTS OF A PEOPLE OR A STATE. FOR THESE REASONS ALONE
WE WOULD AT LEAST "QUESTION THE ADVISABILITY OF AMENDMENT
PROCEDURE."

3. IN ADDITION, AS USDEL IS AWARE, NEGOTIATIONS SPONSORED
BY WESTERN FIVE MEMBERS OF SC ARE AT PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE
STAGE WITH SOUTH AFRICA HAVING ACCEPTED WESTERN PROPOSAL.

UNDER
THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO SUPPORT ACTIONS,
SUCH AS ACCEPTANCE OF COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA AS WMO MEMBER,
WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS AFFECTING OUR NEUTRAL POSITION
ON NAMIBIA.

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Message Attributes

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